MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

October 24, 1961

In the course of a conversation this morning, Walt Stoessel passed on the following:

Norsted has been giving considerable thought to the letter, with the "preferred course of action" on Berlin attached. Walt said that Norstad's first reaction to the letter was generally favorable. However, in rereading it and studying it he is discovering more and more problems. Nors: d is currently debating on the handling from here and is presently considering a reply which would ask for clarification on certain point. He would, in each case, indicate his understanding of what the intent is. Walt said that Norstad was particularly dubious about the timing between I and II.

Norstad is oming here for the SEAFE alumni dinner on November 6. He will expect to have some high level talks here at that time on Berlin strategy, although he expects to reply in writing to the letter

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